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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/814,863	03/31/2004	Snorre Kjesbu	3491.1002-000	5620

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EXAMINER

RAMAKRISHNAIAH, MELUR

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2614

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/11/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/814,863	Applicant(s) KJESBU ET AL.	
	Examiner Melur Ramakrishnaiah	Art Unit 2614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 March 2004.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,12-14,18 and 19 is/are rejected.
7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-11 and 15-17 is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3-31-04, 8-3-2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-2, 12-13, 14, 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by Honchi et al. (JP2002-049367, hereinafter Honchi).

Regarding claim 1, Honchi discloses an arrangement of a videoconference end-point comprising: a projective surface (13, Drawings: 1-3), a video projector (12, Drawing: 1) emitting beam of light creating one or more images on the projection surface (13, Drawing: 3), an end-point (for example 11a, Drawing: 1) associated with video camera (14, Drawing: 1) directed towards the video projector (12) and residing within the beam of light, beam area generator (reads on 53, Drawing: 4) adapted to generate an area of light or absence of light in the beam replacing part of, and/or adding a part to, the one or more images, to cover at least part of the video camera and thereby prevent the video camera from substantially capturing beam of light (abstract; paragraphs: 0018 – 0036).

Regarding claim 14, Honchi discloses a method of operating a video conference end-point comprising: emitting a beam of light from a video projector (12, Drawing: 1) to create one or more images on projective surface (13, Drawing: 3), directing the end-point (for example 11a, Drawing: 1) associated with video camera (14, Drawing: 1) towards the video projector, the camera residing in the beam of light as shown in

Drawing: 1, generating an area of light or absence of light in the beam to replace a part of, or add a part to, the one or more images (Drawing: 3), and adjusting at least the position of the area of light or absence of light to cover at least a part of the video camera as shown in Drawing: 3 to thereby prevent the video camera from substantially capturing the beam of light (abstract; paragraphs: 0018 – 0036).

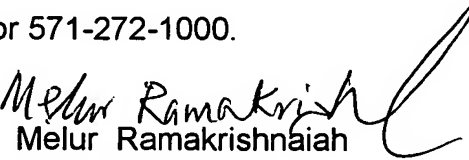
Regarding claims 2, 12-13, 18-19, Honchi further teaches the following: camera position detector (reads on signal Va produced by camera) adapted for determining the size and shape of the area, camera position detector is integrated in or connected to a codec and/ or the video camera (paragraphs: 0027-0028) (codec not shown, but implied as image has to be compressed in order to make it possible to transmit as is well known in the art), video camera (14, Drawing: 1) in front or behind the projective surface (Drawing 1), initializing the position and/or size of the area of light or absence of light by initially generating the area to cover substantially the whole of the one or more images and shrinking the area until the one or more edges of the area of the area is/are detected, initializing the position and/or size of the area of light or absence of light by initially generating the area to cover a part the one or more images residing within the video camera, and expanding the area until one or more edges of the area is/are detected (paragraphs: 0030 – 0036).

3. Claims 3-11 and 15-17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Melur Ramakrishnaiah whose telephone number is (571)272-8098. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 Hr schedule.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curt Kuntz can be reached on (571) 272-7499. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Melur Ramakrishnaiah
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2614